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AB 204

Public Hearing

Assembly Committee on Environment and Forestry

Good afternoon, Mr. Chair and Committee members. I appreciate the opportunity to testify before you today. AB 204 is a common-sense bill that would repeal an existing DNR administrative rule, requiring facilities that have the *potential* to emit greenhouse gasses to obtain air permits, as well as also comply with “best available control technology” for greenhouse gases. This rule was originally enacted to mirror federal EPA regulations. However, in June 2014, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the portion of the EPA rule requiring a facility to obtain an air permit solely on the basis of *potential* greenhouse emissions.

In keeping with the theme of the Assembly’s “Red Tape Review” initiative, this bill seeks to clean up our statutes and bring parity with federal law. Removing this unenforceable rule will also bring certainty and assurance to businesses in the state that may be unsure as to whether or not the DNR will attempt to enforce this rule. Such a business currently exists in my district. I trust that the passage of this bill will further encourage them and provide certainty as they look to expand and grow in the state of Wisconsin.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to testify today. I look forward to your support of this measure.